

# FINAL REPORT



PD-ABX 659 1/ 8637  
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## SUDAN: DROUGHT

26/02/2002

*This Final Report is intended for reporting on emergency appeals*

*Appeal No. 11/01*

*Launched on: 2 March 2001 for CHF 5,582,404 for 6 months. (Appeal target included WFP resourced food valued at CHF 3,000,000). The programme has been extended until the end of December 2001, although the implementation of some components has not been finalised yet.*

*DREF Allocated: CHF 29,000 (for initial assessment mission); repaid*

*Beneficiaries: 289,000*

*Final Operations Update Period covered: 2 March 2001 until 15 February 2002*

*(last Operations Update No 3 issued on 27 November 2002)*

### "At a glance"

*(to be completed by Relationship Management Dept.)*

*Appeal coverage: xx%*

*Related Appeals number/title*

*The Disaster/Situation Short (three-five sentences) narrative description*

### **Operational Developments:**

A severe drought experienced across central, western and southern Sudan during 2001, caused by low and sporadic rainfall in previous years (100-200mm compared to an annual average of 400mm), has affected several million people, many of whom became at acute risk of severe food insecurity. Due to depleted water resources and lack of rain, the agricultural production came to a critical low.

By July 2001, the food insecurity had reached emergency levels. Cereals could only be obtainable from central markets at extremely high prices and rural markets stood almost devoid of cereals. The coping mechanism of the population included a search for alternative sources of food - mukhiet, shrub producing seeds which are ground up and mixed with water, thus supplementing the limited cereal contents of the meals.

Pasture and grazing land became extremely limited and only available in certain pockets of the country, causing huge losses to the animals. Some reports stated that as much as 80% of households in Red Sea State remained with no animals left. At the same time, livestock trade experienced serious stagnation, reducing access to the main source of income, hence further reducing the coping capacities of the affected communities. At the worst crisis level, the livestock reached extreme trading prices at six goats to one bag of 90 kg sorghum, traditional staple food in Sudan (normally, the price would be one animal exchanged for one bag of sorghum).

Open wells and canals have dried out in many places, causing serious threat to the availability of potable water to the population and animals. The health risks related to a scarcity of safe drinking water, together with an increased malnutrition, combined with low immunisation coverage, threatened an increase in the incidence of mortality and morbidity, due to waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea and dysentery. Displacements of entire families to urban centres became dramatic. These large scale distress migrations posed a serious security risk, due to an increased danger of intertribal clashes and robberies. In addition, they increased the vulnerability to health risks, due to a reduced access to an already low number of health facilities.

#### **Red Cross Red Crescent action •**

The likelihood of severe drought has already been forecasted during 2000, with early warning signs detected (such as low measured average annual rainfall in Western Sudan and Red Sea State). During January and February two field assessments were conducted in South and North Darfur and in Red Sea State. The assessment team was composed of staff from Sudanese Red Crescent Society, Federation country and regional delegations and several PNS delegates. Access to safe water, emergency food and medical care have been identified as the most crucial interventions urgently required.

Following the assessments and consultations with the government and other partners, Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and the Federation decided to concentrate relief activities in three areas (North and South Darfur and Red Sea States). Detailed plan of action to provide the emergency needs to the most vulnerable has been prepared by SRCS and the Federation in close co-operation with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC).

Responding to the needs, Appeal no. 11/01 has been launched by the Federation on behalf of SRCS on 2 March 2001, seeking some CHF 5,582,404 to assist 289,000 beneficiaries for a period of six months. As a result of an agreement between WFP, the Federation and SRCS, the appeal budget included a significant food component (consisting of 6,500MT of cereal, pulses, and vegetable oil) valued at about CHF 3,000,000, and contributed by WFP.

Initial donor response to the appeal was weak. Similarly, the UN's Sudan Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) received poor donor coverage, further highlighting the seriousness of the situation. However, after a statement made by the Government of Sudan (25 April) emphasising the crisis situation and that the need for assistance became critical, the donor response improved, eventually covering most of the Appeal's requirements.

#### **Red Cross and Red Crescent Society •**

Through its network of branches, the Sudanese Red Crescent has been co-operating with the government in monitoring and collection of information concerning rainfall and available water resources throughout 2000. Similarly, all programme activities related to drought were closely co-ordinated at national and regional levels between SRCS and the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) - the main governmental body responsible for co-ordinating all disaster response humanitarian activities.

From the start of its disaster response operation, SRCS has established an 'emergency operations room' at its headquarters in Khartoum and a relief committee in each of the three operational states. The co-ordination of activities was done by the National Relief Co-ordinator and three State Branch Relief Officers. Their task included management of all branch staff and volunteers in accordance to plan of action designed for each state.

The tasks of the volunteers ranged from selecting and registering of beneficiaries for food and seeds distribution, field monitoring visits to the programme areas, collecting and compiling of post-monitoring data, reporting and providing of recommendations based on monitoring findings, participating in assessment missions conducted in the course of programme implementation, and other.

Volunteers also conducted a range of health related activities, such as baseline Health and Nutrition Survey in Red Sea State, First Aid training and health promotion seminars to communities and Village Health Committees, as well as training of communities in water, health and sanitation related subjects.

## **Health •**

### **Objective 1**

***Red Sea State: To improve the access of the most vulnerable groups to primary health services and health education in targeted areas***

These objectives focused on provision of limited primary health care, first aid and health education, complementing the provision of food rations to the drought-affected rural communities in seven localities - five in Sinkat Province and two in Red Sea Province. This also included identifying health problems of the nomadic groups and notifying health facilities of any outbreak of diseases.

The objectives were achieved through:

- Provision of medical assistance and public health information through activated mobile health clinic;
- Provision of drugs to four hospitals, six clinics and nine dispensaries.

Mobile health clinic activities were implemented in close co-operation with the State Ministry of Health and the local councils, who seconded a medical assistant and two certified nurses to SRCS in each locality. SRCS volunteers assisted the medical team and conducted health education sessions at the centres. They were provided with essential medicines and equipment, transportation means and a tent. Medical supplies were procured locally with the funding provided by Norwegian, German Red Cross societies and their respective governments, as well as French and American governments.

Following the completion of food distribution cycles (first at the end of June and second in September 2001), the mobile health clinic team conducted its visits to the population of seven localities.

During the first round, a total of 2,497 patients were examined and provided with treatment, while during the second round conducted in October, 4,063 patients received assisted. The highest number of diseases treated by the team included acute respiratory infections (ARI), diarrhoea, anaemia, vitamin-A deficiency, but also malaria, dysentery, urinary tract infections, blood pressure problems, digestive complaints, eye infections, nutrition blindness, dental problems, ear infections and bronchial pneumonia.

The vast majority of treated patients concerned children of up to 14 years of age. Due to insufficient quantities of drugs for adults, not all persons received treatment. This

particularly concerned anaemia medicines for pregnant women. A number of suspected cases of tuberculosis were transferred to the hospital for further diagnosis. The team also reported that a large number of men have left the area in search of employment elsewhere.

Main recommendations provided by the medical team concerned the following:

- to provide anaemia medicines and vitamins, especially for pregnant and lactating mothers;
- to increase the quantity of children's medicines and to provide IV fluids;
- to provide mobile laboratory to enable testing of malaria and TB suspected cases;
- to consider adding milk to the food basket (essential dietary component of the communities), in high shortage, due to livestock severely affected by the drought;
- to revise the list of medicines in co-operation with local health authorities and increase the quantity of adult drugs.

Parallel to the medical assistance, First Aid volunteers conducted health promotion sessions to the communities, focusing on preventative issues surrounding primary care, waterborne diseases, nutritional education, the importance of immunisation, as well as water resource management, and better hygiene and sanitation practices.

- The recommended and ordered Vitamin A for west and south-east Sinkat did not arrive in time, but was distributed separately on 13 November, in conjunction with the 9th polio campaign.

The main constraint to the work of the team is the vastness of the catchment area, as well as the fact that nearly no permanent health care is being provided there, thus facing the need for assistance beyond its capacity. Due to some logistical planning problems, this component of the programme was not implemented alongside the food distribution events, thus reducing the potentially higher number of persons benefiting from health information.

### **Objective 2**

***Southern Darfur: Reduce community health vulnerabilities, including those related to communicable and water borne diseases, and institute a surveillance regime***

The Southern Darfur branch conducted a First Aid training in Nyala between 15 July and 5 August for forty SRCS volunteers and community leaders from Sheria, Muhageria, Netega and Belej localities. The trained volunteers and community leaders are expected to train others and thus spread the health messages amongst their own communities.

Two workshops for Village Health Committees were held in Sheria at the end of August. The intention of the workshops was to enhance the community awareness and participation on disease prevention and health education, as well as intensify health education at grass-root level. Sixty community leaders, beneficiaries and volunteers from the targeted fifteen villages participated in these workshops.

### **Objective 3**

***Northern Darfur: Promote sustainable water supply and increase community awareness of health promoting hygiene practices***

In conjunction with the rehabilitation of selected water resource facilities in El Fashir and Dar El Salam localities, nine community training seminars have been organised for 360 volunteers, community leaders and members of health committees, with an approximate gender ratio of 50:50.

Each course lasted for seven days and was conducted at villages where rehabilitation took place. This training comprised of the following components:

- health and sanitation issues with special attention to waterborne diseases;
- the role of SRCS in the community;
- maintenance and operation of rural water sources and hand pumps;
- management of water sources, imposition and use of water tariffs.

The courses were conducted jointly by SRCS, Water and Environmental Sanitation Project (WESP), and the Department of Environmental Health.

#### **Water-sanitation •**

##### ***Objective 1***

***Red Sea State: Provision of emergency water and rehabilitation of selected water sources in targeted areas.***

The initial objective of providing emergency water supplies from Gebit and Deurdeb, and transport it by rail to the affected population in Sinkat, had to be abandoned. This was due to a considerable decrease in water resources in Gebit, caused by three years of continuous drought, resulting in insufficient water needs for the population there. At the same time, the railway line between Deurdeb and Sinkat does not function at present.

##### ***Desalination project in Sinkat town:***

Proposed alternative solution was to carry out desalination process of two existing bore-holes in the town itself, with a capacity to provide the beneficiaries with 200-500 cubic metres of water each day. Under this process, the salted water from two bore-holes (in Wadi and Sinkat) would be pumped to two underground storage tanks, where a desalination machine would process the water and transfer it into an elevated water tank, from where the distribution would continue to the beneficiaries.

In August 2001, an agreement has been signed between the SRCS/Red Sea State and the State Ministry for Planning and Engineering. The agreement specified the roles and obligations of each partner. Under its terms, SRCS provided its services in construction of 1,500 metres of pipeline at the selected site, two underground tanks according to specifications required, as well as rehabilitation of the existing elevation tank. Funds for this project were provided by French government and USAID.

The Ministry of Engineering had to provide and install the desalination machine, material required for desalination, complete rehabilitation of two existing bore-holes, as well as provide and install two submersible pumps and a 45 KVA generator. Following a revised technical advice, instead of one 45 KVA generator planned, the two smaller ones were proposed.

##### ***Progress of work:***

***Up to middle of January 2002***, one of the two bore-holes have been rehabilitated and submersible pump installed. The desalination machine has been installed. Following a procurement of 250 UPVC pipes, 1,500 metres of trench have been dug, and the pipes have been connected between bore-holes and the salt water tank. The two underground tanks were built and the rehabilitation of elevated tank was close to completion. One generator has been installed and successfully tested, while the other one, to be connected to desalination machine will be installed shortly. Other remaining activities include the completion of one bore-hole and one submersible pump, planned to be completed by xxxxx

##### ***Rehabilitation of water resources in Red Sea State localities:***

The second component of this objective focused on rehabilitation and construction of 75 open wells (through deepening, maintenance and internal skimming) and 40 hand pumps in

affected localities: Sinkat, Gebiet, Tahamiam, Hayia and Derudeb, with the funding provided by American, French, German, Norwegian governments/Red Cross societies.

Water engineer from the State Water Corporation, familiar with the local water system has been seconded to the project on a part time basis for a period of four months. In addition, an independent local consultant/water engineer participated in the programme.

Open wells and hand pumps for rehabilitation have been selected in collaboration with local relief committees (LRCs) and the local government. Due to late arrival of financial contributions, activities in this field were delayed. The work commenced in *August 2001 and by the middle of January 2002, it had not been completed.*

**Table (1): Rehabilitation of hand-dug wells in Red Sea State:**

Locality	Hand-dug wells planned	Hand-dug wells completed	Progress rate (%)
Sinkat	23	16	69.57
Gebiet	11	8	72.73
Tahamiam	6	3	50
Hayia	20	8	40
Derudeb	17	5	29.41
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>52.34</b>

The completed wells are fully functioning, providing the local settlement communities with much needed clean drinking water. Apart from providing water to the communities, an additional benefit is seen in a reduction of workload for women who had to collect and transport the water from long distances.

The heavy rains in September and October affected Sinkat, Gebiet, Hayia and Tahamiam, and although generally improving the situation there, also caused some flooding. As a consequence, the rehabilitation programme experienced delays, as some wells became flooded and required cleaning before continuing the work. In addition, long distances between the sites posed an additional strain to the implementation, due to poor road conditions. Additional delays occurred when a number of sites were identified as project sites, while in reality, following some further work, they proved to be dry. *The remaining work should be completed by the middle of February 2002.*

A Food for Work programme for rehabilitation of hand-dug wells, planned to be done in co-operation with WFP, could not be implemented due to shortage of available food. At present, casual labour with community participation is being used to complete the projects.

**Table (2): Rehabilitation of hand-pumps in Red Sea State:**

Locality	Handpumps planned	Handpumps completed	Progress rate (%)
Sinkat	15	15	100
Gebiet	3	3	100
Hayia	8	2	25
Derudeb	14	5	35.71
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>65.18</b>

*Check the progress of work for hand-pumps and update the table as necessary*

**Objective 2*****Northern Darfur: Mitigate distress migration***

In previous years, the severe shortage of water in this highly drought-prone area caused communities to migrate to other parts of Sudan. To reduce the risk of migration caused by drought in 2001, the programme rehabilitated the water resources in El Fashir and Dar El Salam localities.

To secure the technical guidance, SRCS has employed a part time local water engineer and a programme officer for North Darfur. A water engineer from the State Water Corporation (SWC) was seconded to the project to initially reassess the required inputs and spare parts for the five bore-holes. Following the results of this assessment, as well as planned implementation timetable, the material and spare parts were procured in Khartoum and supplied at the end of July.

A formal co-operation agreement between SRCS branch and the Water and Environmental Sanitation Project (WESP) has been signed, stipulating WESP's responsibility to rehabilitate and instal the hand pumps under the supervision of the SRCS Northern Darfur State Branch.

The work commenced in August and was completed in the first week of October 2001. According to plan, all five bore-holes and thirty hand-pumps rehabilitated. Twenty SRCS volunteers participated in direct implementation, while some seventy volunteers participated in initial surveys. Two of the hand pumps are not operational (in Amm Zuur and Amm Samasim), due to a lack of underground water, a result of two consecutive years of severe drought. Funding of this component was provided by French and American governments.

However, the demand for water in this state remains high. The branch has received 147 requests from villages and communities in need of new water sources or rehabilitation of the existing ones. Some requests have also recommended the inclusion of fencing, tools for maintenance and fast moving spare parts.

**Relief distributions •**

In addition to health, shelter and water/sanitation needs, the essential requirement was to provide emergency food rations to the most affected population.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent response to this first emergency phase included:

- Provision of food rations to 109,000 beneficiaries in Red Sea State;
- Provision of food rations to 24,688 beneficiaries in South Darfur State.

United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP) agreed to provide food commodities to SRCS, initially consisting of half rations (cereals, pulses and vegetable oil).

During the second phase, SRCS conducted activities aimed at restoring food self-sufficiency of 80,825 severely affected households in Red Sea, North, West and South Darfur states, with the seeds provided by the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO).

In addition to seeds distribution, each beneficiary household received relevant technical agricultural advice, taking into account micro agronomic/ecological terrain, as well as their capacities and experience. This has been conducted by agronomists throughout the cropping season, seconded to SRCS branches by the State Ministry of Agriculture. Each beneficiary household would, in case of a successful harvest, return three kg of seeds to village committees, thus creating seeds reserve banks at village council level.

Good harvest is anticipated in some places. However, pest attacks and birds caused a significant reduction in the yield. Food shortage during 2000-2001, which forced men to search for work elsewhere, appeared to have been another constraint to the production.

Many areas would depend highly on these food crops, as they experienced failure in millet production for two and sometimes three years in a row, seriously threatening their livelihood and survival.

A total of eight agreements were signed with WFP and FAO stipulating roles and responsibilities of each party in management of the operations. Although some problems were faced, such as the late arrival of commodities, transport difficulties, distributions have been carried out successfully as indicated under separate objectives.

### **Objective 1**

**Red Sea State: To distribute balanced food rations to 109,000 persons and 14,000 IDPs\* for 6 months in 3 cycles.**

The first cycle of food distribution was implemented during May and June by two SRCS teams, with a total of 1,733.03 MT distributed to 109,000 beneficiaries. Post Distribution Monitoring study (SRCS/WFP) conducted between 11 and 16 July showed its positive impact preventing migration. In Rural Port Sudan about 90% of the beneficiaries were consuming two meals per day, while 10% consumed three meals. The part given to kinship was 26%. In Sinkat 84% were taking one to two meals per day and 16% three meals. They gave away 36% to kinship and used 7% as animal feed.

There have been some comments on the suitability of food baskets. The sorghum was received well, being local staple food. However, women complained about the peas, which were hard to cook and required considerable quantities of firewood in an area where firewood is scarce. Soaking the peas overnight and grinding did not solve the problem.

**Table (3): First food rations distribution cycle in Red Sea State:**

Province	Beneficiaries	Cereals (MT)	Pulses (MT)	Vegetable Oil (MT)	Subtotal (MT)
Red Sea	35'000	472.5	52.5	31.5	556.5
Sinkat	74'046	1'000.48	111.19	66.7	1'178.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>109'046</b>	<b>1'472.98</b>	<b>163.69</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>1'734.86</b>

\*A joint WFP/SRCS/OXFAM food needs assessment study undertaken in Red Sea State to determine changes in vulnerability was conducted at the end of July. The mission found an increased level of vulnerability with no assets, resources or wealth for coping and the food gap was estimated to be 70-100% in most population groups. An additional caseload of IDPs in Sinkat province was found to be in need of food distribution.

Consequently the following decisions were taken for the Red Sea State:

- Immediate change the food rations from half to full (for the second and third cycle);
- Increase the number of beneficiaries from 109,000 to 123,000 by adding 14,000 displaced (second and third cycle);
- Prolong the period of food assistance until the end of December.

The second food distribution cycle started on 4 August and went ahead smoothly. Pulses were replaced by CSB (corn soya blend), provided by the German Red Cross, and a full ration was handed out, except for oil, which was only given in half ration due to insufficient supply. Distribution also covered 15,932 IDPs. A local transport contractor played a significant role and food reached the most remote areas without any delay. A second Post Distribution Monitoring exercise by WFP and SRCS has been carried out according to plan.



**Table (4): Second food rations distribution cycle in Red Sea State:**

Province	Beneficiaries	Cereals (MT)	CSB (MT)	Vegetable Oil (MT)	Subtotal (MT)
Red Sea	35'003	944.9	105.01	31.51	1'081.42
Sinkat	89'978	2'376	263.89	79.18	2'719.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>124'981</b>	<b>3'320.9</b>	<b>368.9</b>	<b>110.69</b>	<b>3'800.49</b>

The start of the third cycle has been hampered by several problems. The food stored at WFP warehouses had to be fumigated, which took a while. Some questions were raised concerning the type of cereal proposed for distribution. WFP was not able to secure sorghum. Instead, they proposed the inclusion of maize in the third cycle. As maize is not known or used by the indigenous population, it would require considerable energy, skill and equipment to prepare, thus considered unsuitable for distribution.

As there seemed to have been no other option, it was agreed that the proposed distribution will go ahead. The third cycle started to be implemented during the last week of November, but was halted again one week later, as re-fumigating of maize was required. Finally, the distribution was completed only by the end of the *second week of February 2002*. *update below:*

**Table (5): Third food rations distribution cycle in Red Sea State:**

Province	Beneficiaries	Cereals (MT)	CSB (MT)	Vegetable Oil (MT)	Subtotal (MT)
Red Sea					
Sinkat					
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Objective 2****South Darfur: Mitigate distress migration.**

Due to poor rainfall, several areas of South Darfur experienced extremely bad harvest in 2001, following a similar situation from 2000. Due to this, very few carry-over food stocks existed at household levels. To help the beneficiaries to overcome their emergency need, thus contribute towards reducing the migration risk. This objective targeted a total of 24,689 beneficiaries, providing them with food rations distributed in two cycles.

The food was provided by WFP and distributed through SRCS branches in Sheria and Nyala provinces. First distribution provided daily half-rations (225g of cereal, 50g of peas, 15g of vegetable oil and 2.5g of salt), while the first distribution provided full rations (45g of cereals, 100g of CSB, 30g of vegetable oil and 5g of salt).

**Table (6): Food distribution to South Darfur State**

South Darfur:	Beneficiaries	Cereals (MT)	Pulses (MT)	Vegetable Oil (MT)	Salt (MT)	TOTAL (MT):
First distribution:	24'688	166.64	37.81	11.11	0.61	216.17
Second Distribution:	24,206*	326.78	36.44*	13.02*	3.63	379.87
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>493.42</b>	<b>74.25</b>	<b>24.23</b>	<b>4.24</b>	<b>596.14</b>

\* While 24,206 beneficiaries received cereals in the second distribution, SCB received only 12,141 beneficiaries and oil - 17,349 beneficiaries. This was due to insufficient quantities made available.

Community leaders and 400 volunteers were involved in both distribution cycles, as well as 30 food monitors (5 female and 25 male). Some delays were experienced, due to late arrival of food, as roads were impassable due to heavy rains in some pockets.

### **Objective 3**

**Red Sea State: To restore food self-sufficiency of 6,525 affected households.**

Although, this objective was not originally planned, it was later included, due to the deterioration of the food situation (following the SRCS/WFP/OXFAM food assessment findings). The distribution targeted the affected households in Sinkat province.

According to the plan, the sorghum seeds were to be distributed in two rounds - prior and following the rainy season. However, as the rains were delayed, the decision was made to provide the beneficiaries with seeds in one distribution. In August, SRCS and FAO completed the distribution of 58.75 MT of seeds to five localities and 66 distribution points.

**Table (7): Distribution of seeds in Red Sea State**

Locality	Beneficiary households	Total seed (MT)
Sinkat	1'444	13
Gebiet	358	3.22
East Haya	721	6.49
Haya	2'164	19.49
Derudeb	1'838	16.55
Contingency	-	6.25
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6'525</b>	<b>65</b>

### **Objective 4**

**South Darfur: Restore food self-sufficiency of 17,600 severely affected households**

Due to two consecutive poor harvests, many farmers exhausted their stocks of seeds through repeated sowing. In response to the requests made by FAO and Ministry of Agriculture, SRCS concluded an agreement to distribute 102MT of improved seeds in two cycles to target beneficiary households.

The distribution took place in ten rural localities in two phases. The selection criteria took into account the most affected, with an emphasis placed on women-headed households.

**Table (8): Phase I of seeds distribution in South Darfur:**

Locality	Beneficiary households	Millet seed (MT)	Sorghum seed (MT)	TOTAL:
Sheria	2'367	9.47	2.46	11.93
Netega	1'647	6.5	1.98	8.48
Muhageria	1'928	7.71	1.96	9.67
Beleil	689	2.76	0.98	3.74
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6'631</b>	<b>26.44</b>	<b>7.38</b>	<b>33.82</b>

**Table (9): Phase II of seeds distribution in South Darfur**

Locality	Beneficiary households	Total Millet seed (MT)
Tulus	5'000	15
Nyala	4'045	12
Buram	3'025	9
Kass	1'521	4.52
Idd El Furusan	1'845	5.48
Sheria	1'365	4
Ab Eldein*		
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>16'801</b>	<b>50</b>

\* Due to insufficient quantities provided by FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture provided seeds for Ab Eldein.

**The totals do not correspond with totals reported in draft to FAO and S. Darfur progress report (18,801 and 56). CHECK**

Although the second agreement planned to provide 70MT of seeds for the second cycle distribution (including Ab Eldein), only 56MT were distributed due to insufficient supply.

The branch started to establish a food security monitoring information system, especially for Sheria province which is considered a highly drought-prone area. In collaboration with FAO, socio-economic indicators were checked and used to design a special monitoring format.

#### **Objective 5**

##### **North Darfur: Restore food self-sufficiency of 8,320 severely affected farming households**

As agreed with FAO, fifty metric tons of seeds were distributed to the actual 8,908 household families. Due to the rain, seeds arrived late in some places. In other areas people used the seeds as food, as nothing else was available. Farmers expressed strong interest in agricultural advice and support.

**Table (10): Seeds distribution in North Darfur**

Locality	Beneficiary households	Total sorghum seed (MT)
Dar Es Salam	3'428	20.6
El Fashir	2'408	14.48
Taweila	2'408	9.96
Mellit	664	4
Ministry of Agriculture		0.96
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>8'908</b>	<b>50</b>

#### **Objective 6**

##### **West Darfur: To restore food self-sufficiency of 21,700 severely affected farming households**

As in other drought-affected states, West Darfur experienced harvest failure, due to low rainfall and pest infestation. Using the Household Economy Approach during the Household Food Economy Assessment carried out in April 2001 (HAC, WFP, SCF/UK and the State Food Security Committee), the scale of drought effects were measured. The assessment found that the community coping mechanisms consisted of consuming wild food, heavy dependence on kinship, and other. Migration trends were on the increase.

SRCS distributed 131.4MT of seeds in July 2001 to 41,232 beneficiary families, almost as twice than originally targeted. The reason for the increase was a higher number of households who did not have any seeds left, than originally anticipated. Decision to increase

the beneficiary number came in response to requests from FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture. The operation was partly financed by FAO, who provided the seeds, transported them to Nyala and made a financial contribution as well. The dispatch and distribution costs to the targeted villages was funded from the SRCS/Federation appeal.

*Table (11): Seeds distribution in West Darfur*

Locality	Beneficiary households	Sorghum seeds (MT)	Millet Seeds (MT)	Total seeds (MT)
Geneina	20'402	26	30.45	56.45
Kulbus	7'170	14	8.55	22.55
Habila	4'660	10		10
Zalingie	9'000	21.4	21	42.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41'232</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>131.4</b>

#### Data Collection •

##### *Objective 1*

*Red Sea State: Improve information availability and quality through strengthening the existing community based health/nutrition monitoring system in Sinkat and Red Sea provinces, in close co-operation with government authorities, UN Agencies and NGOs.*

SRCS has been engaged in extensive early warning-projects during the eighties. The advantages of SRCS as being one of the key partners in developing early warning systems, data collection and their analysis lies primarily in its network covering twenty states, with a strength of thousands of active volunteers throughout the country.

After the latest drought situation, it was considered appropriate to conduct a baseline health and nutritional survey in one of the most affected states - Red Sea, partly due to the fact that SRCS already had a remarkable knowledge of the conditions there, and partly in order to fill the gap existing in this State in terms of official data. Certainly, the monitoring process over a period of time would provide valuable information, such as consistent measuring of the children's weight, which would provide a valid indicator of changing trends in health and nutrition of the population.

The first phase of the survey started in July 2001, with a training seminar held in Sinkat town for 43 SRCS volunteers. The training focused training of volunteers on data collection, using prepared questionnaires, including two days of theoretical activities and one day of practical field training. The target population for the survey was assumed to be 112,917. Due to logistical and time constraints, the sample focused on only 3% of the population, while the cluster method seemed most appropriate, due to vastness of the area.

Following the training, and assuming an average family number as 6, the volunteers visited 600 families in five localities, collecting data, including: family profiles, nutritional data of children (including their measurements, height, as well as their past and present health condition, etc.), coping community strategies (assessing their shelter, water and energy resources), food intake and rations, agricultural and other income generating activities.

According to the survey report published in August, 19% of the children are severely malnourished in the rural areas. In Tahamian locality this figure is as high as 37%. Furthermore, the survey shows that due to failure of rain, there is no crop harvest, wells and canals have dried out and animal stock has died. Families rely solely on food distribution.

A second survey phase is being planned following the third cycle of food distribution. This time, data collectors will be divided into seven groups, one for each locality. The survey will

include 87 villages in two provinces of Sinkat (Sinkat, Gabeit, Hayia, Durdeib, Tahamiam) and Rural Port Sudan (Awleeb and Gunub).

#### **Shelter •**

##### **Objective 1**

***Red Sea State: Provision of local shelter materials (mats) and blankets to 15,000 displaced persons in Sinkat province:***

The target of this objective was to provide protection of displaced persons from natural elements. This was somewhat delayed, due to registration problems, caused by difficulty in distinguishing the IDPs and persons who left their homesteads due to other reasons.

However, after this was successfully resolved, in November the branch went ahead with local procurement of 30,000 mats and 45,000 poles (funded by the Canadian Red Cross), required for construction of shelter for the beneficiaries. In addition, with the funding provided by the Norwegian Red Cross, 6,000 blankets were procured in Khartoum and distributed to IDPs.

#### **Logistics •**

To enable SRCS branches to efficiently conduct many of their activities during this large-scale operation, four vehicles were assigned to them. Red Sea State branch received two vehicles, while North Darfur and South Darfur received one vehicle each. Vehicles were procured with the funds from American, Norwegian and Swedish Red Cross societies and their respective governments.

The need for efficient information, up-to-date reporting and continuous contact with the branches was of utmost importance. For that purpose, computers (funded by the American RC) and office furniture/equipment (American, French, Norwegian and Swedish donations), required for data collection and processing was provided to North Darfur and Red Sea branches, as well as to SRCS Headquarters. In addition, a generator for the SRCS branch office in Port Sudan has been procured and transferred to the office location.

All equipment was purchased locally, using standard Federation procurement procedures in obtaining quotations from a minimum of three suppliers, with prices and product specifications according to quotation requests. The procurement committees were established in accordance to the established practice.

#### **Telecommunications •**

With the funding provided by American, German and Norwegian donors, four HF Mobile radios have been purchased for installation in the new vehicles and have been sent to the branches, strengthening their capacity in providing up-to-date information.

#### **National Society Capacity Building •**

Throughout implementing of the emergency response to this complex disaster, SRCS gained additional experience and further enhanced its capacities. Through a number of workshops in all four operational States, the volunteers were trained in beneficiary selection, registration, monitoring of food distribution, data collection, disaster preparedness and management, first aid, water, health and sanitation education, and other.

The National Society once again proved its ability to conduct large-scale operations, its ongoing good partnership with the government disaster response and health departments, as well as other organisations.

Disaster preparedness and disaster response in the areas of health, shelter/emergency relief, water and sanitation rehabilitation, are key objectives of SRCS' present and future activities, and development of these is an ongoing process. Further capacities need to be developed particularly in the areas of management, reporting and needs assessment, especially in emergency response scenario.

A Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) training is the next priority for the National Society, under the programme funded by DFID. As part of this initiative, the National Society is conducting a risk survey of disaster areas, in an effort to geographically classify different areas according to the nature and frequency of disasters, population numbers in these areas, minimal relief provisions required, and other information. In addition, the National Society is creating a database of available local suppliers, containing prices, availability of goods, their quality, delivery times and other essential information.

One of the major constraints faced was the ability of the SRCS to report in a timely manner, for both narrative and financial feedback. Much work has been done throughout 2002 to clear a considerable financial backlog. It is unfortunate that this final report has been so delayed but a combination of delayed activities, difficult communications and a change in Federation personnel over the last year have all contributed to the delay.

### **Coordination**

Regular co-ordination meetings were held between all parties involved - SRCS, IFC, WFP, FAO, Ministry of Health, Oxfam, HAC, HFA and the International GO Forum, in order to avoid any duplication of efforts.

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*All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

*This operation sought to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or long-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.*

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